

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

April 7, 2016

Town Hall

Chairman Kenneth Picard; Selectman Robert J. Fleming; Selectman
James Brochu; Town Manager, Blythe C. Robinson

Chairman Picard called the meeting to order at 7:15 pm.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Discuss FY 16/17 Budget with the Finance Committee

The Selectmen joined the Finance Committee to discuss the FY 16/17 budget. Finance Committee Chairman Paul Flaherty gave an overview of the status of the budget and the process up to now. One of the main budget drivers that was discussed was whether or not to fund the MURSD school budget to the amount certified by the school committee. School Committee Chairman Phil DeZutter was present and informed the boards that the school was still looking for support for their certified budget. He told them that health insurance costs were twice what they'd budgeted and that even with the certified budget being funded by both towns they still had a shortfall of \$330K which they were committed to resolving without asking for additional funds. The Selectmen discussed this item and decided unanimously to add back into the budget the \$98,419 they had previously removed. Ms. Robinson outlined for the boards the options for reductions in the budget, the other costs that are not factored in yet, and the warrant articles that are contained on the May 5th ATM warrant.

The budget discussion continued between the boards as to how to achieve a spending plan that did not require an increase to the tax rate, and then how to communicate that effectively at Town Meeting. They decided to revise the summary page of the budget document to show the spending plan for both the spring and fall town meetings, and the free cash that could be saved now and used to reduce the tax rate in the fall when the recap sheet is done. They asked the Town Manager to revise the document for all to review.

The Boards then decided to meet again on April 19th with the goal of finalizing the budget at that time.

ADJOURN MEETING

Motion #1: At 8:20 pm motion was made by Selectman Brochu to adjourn the regular meeting.

Second: Selectmen Fleming, Unanimous Chairman Picard.

Respectfully submitted,
Blythe C. Robinson
Town Manager